

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-3, 5, 9-11, 13-24, and 26. Please cancel Claims 4 and 25. Please add new Claims 27-31.

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

A. Listing of Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A computerized system for producing a domestic relations order comprising:

a receiver for receiving information relating to a domestic relations order, said information comprising an alternate payee and court information;

a rules engine in communication with the receiver for ~~authenticating the received information~~ selecting sample text passages; and

a document assembler for automatically incorporating a first subset of the sample text passages and a second subset of the received information comprising the alternate payee and the court information ~~the authenticated information~~ into ~~an assembled~~ a court-compliant domestic relations order for submission to a court.

2. (Currently amended) The system of a claim 1 wherein ~~a subset of the received information is received from~~ comprises information associated with a participant in an employee benefit plan.

3. (Currently amended) The system of a claim 2 wherein, ~~in addition to the subset of the received information received from the participant,~~ additional data is received from comprises information associated with a legal representative of the participant.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[4]] 3 wherein, ~~in addition to the subject of the received information received from the participant, the legal representative of the participant, and the alternate payee of the employee benefit plan, additional information is further received from~~ comprises information associated with a legal representative of the alternate payee ~~of the employee benefit plan.~~

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including a data storage device for storing rules relating to a domestic relations order.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the data storage device further stores sample text passages.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the sample text passages relate to a domestic relations order.

9. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[7]] 6 wherein the rules engine further selects a the first subset of the sample text passages based, at least in part, on the stored rules.

10. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[7]] 1 wherein the rules engine further selects a the first subset of the sample passages based, at least in part, on the received information.

11. (Currently amended) The system of claim 6 wherein the document assembler receives at ~~least a subset of the~~ additional information from the data storage device, the ~~subset of received~~ additional information having been previously included in a domestic relations order.

12. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising an administrative module for maintaining the rules engine.

13. (Currently amended) A computerized method for producing a domestic relations order, comprising:

providing a plurality of sample text passages relating to domestic relations orders, the sample text passages including embedded parameters comprising an alternate payee and court information;

requesting information for inclusion into a domestic relations order, the requested information including values for one or more of the embedded parameters;

receiving the requested information; and

automatically assembling ~~the~~ a court-compliant domestic relations order for submission to a court using a first subset of the sample text passages and ~~at least a~~ second subset of the ~~received~~ requested information.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving the requested information over an electronic communications network.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the electronic communications network is one of a local area network, a wide area network, a telephone network, an intranet, ~~or~~ the Internet, or any combination thereof.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 13 further comprising receiving the requested information through an online questionnaire.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving at least a subset of the requested information from a previously completed domestic relations order.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving at least a subset of the requested information ~~from~~ associated with a participant in an employee benefit plan.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein the employee benefit[[s]] plan comprises is one of a defined contribution plan, and a defined benefit plan, or both.
20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving ~~at least~~ a subset of the requested information ~~from~~ associated with a legal representative of a participant in an employee benefit plan.
21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving ~~at least~~ a subset of the requested information from an alternate payee of an employee benefit plan.
22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising receiving at least a subset of the requested information ~~from~~ associated with a legal representative of the alternate payee of an employee benefit plan.
23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22 further comprising providing a set of rules relating to ~~the composition of~~ generating a domestic relations order.
24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23 wherein ~~the assembly step automatically assembling the court-compliant domestic relations order~~ further comprises determining the subset of the sample text passages based, at least in part, on the rules.
25. (Canceled)
26. (Currently amended) A computerized system for producing a domestic relations order, comprising:
means for storing sample text passages for inclusion into a domestic relations order, the sample text passages including embedded parameters comprising an alternate payee, and court information;

means for receiving information about a first domestic relations order, the information providing values for one or more of the embedded parameters; and

means for automatically assembling a court-compliant domestic relations order for submission to a court using from a first subset of the stored sample text passages and at least a second subset of the received information and a subset of the stored sample text.

27. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein said court information comprises a case number.

28. (New) The method of claim 16 further comprising determining one or more questions for the online questionnaire based on a rules engine and a subset of the requested information.

29. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein assembling comprises using a document template.

30. (New) The method of claim 29 wherein automatically assembling the court-compliant domestic relations order comprises using a subset of the requested information as input for one or more parameter fields of the document template.

31. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein the court-compliant domestic relations order is assembled according to one or more predefined document formats.